

SIXTEENTH REPORT

OF THE

Board of Managers

OF THE

HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND,

TOGETHER WITH THE

ACT OF INCORPORATION,

AND

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

HALIFAX :

PRINTED AT THE OFFICE OF THE NOVA SCOTIA PRINTING COMPANY.

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HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND.

Incorporated in the Year 1867.

MANAGERS AND OFFICERS OF THE INSTITUTION.

MANAGERS FOR 1887.

JOHN S. MACLEAN,
LIEUT. GOVERNOR M. H. RICHEY,
JOHN DUFFUS,
W. C. SILVER,
W. H. NEAL,
GEORGE THOMSON,

GEORGE MITCHELL,
HON. S. L. SHANNON,
H. H. FULLER,
JAMES C. MACKINTOSH,
E. D. MEYNELL,
W. ACKHURST,

W. S. FIELDING, Prov. Secretary, *Ex-officio*.

President.

JOHN S. MACLEAN.

Vice-President.

W. C. SILVER.

Secretary and Treasurer.

E. D. MEYNELL.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

Finance.

H. H. FULLER,
GEORGE THOMSON,
JAMES C. MACKINTOSH,
GEORGE MITCHELL.

Manufacture.

W. C. SILVER,
W. H. NEAL,
HON. S. L. SHANNON,
J. DUFFUS,
W. ACKHURST.

Instruction.

W. C. SILVER,
M. H. RICHEY,
W. ACKHURST,
H. H. FULLER.

House.

J. S. MACLEAN,
J. C. MACKINTOSH,
GEORGE THOMSON,
GEORGE MITCHELL.

OFFICERS.

Superintendent.

C. F. FRASER.

Teachers.

LITERATURE—MISS MAGGIE McN. MACKENZIE.

MUSIC—C. F. FRASER,
A. M. CHISHOLM.

Trade Instructor.

DAVID A. BAIRD.

Gymnastics Instructor.

SERGEANT-MAJOR BAILEY.

Steward.

R. T. BLAIR.

Matron.

MRS. R. T. BLAIR.

Attending Physician.

DR. A. W. H. LINDSAY.

Ophthalmic Physician.

DR. S. DODGE.

Dental Surgeon.

DR. A. C. COGSWELL.

VISITING DAY—WEDNESDAY, 3 P. M.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
BOARD OF MANAGERS
OF THE
HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND,
1886.

In submitting to the members of this Corporation and to the public generally their Sixteenth Annual Report, the Board of Managers of the Halifax School for the Blind acknowledge with thankfulness their indebtedness to an all-wise Father, who throughout the year has guided and directed their deliberations and actions, and enabled your Board to discharge its pleasing duties with advantage to the Institution, and with satisfaction to its individual members. The cloud of financial difficulty which twelve months since threatened to limit the sphere of our operations and curtail the usefulness of the Institution has rolled away, and we now feel sanguine that some at least of the contemplated improvements referred to in previous reports can be carried through; indeed we have already provided for the more immediate needs, and so far as our income will allow it is our intention to second the efforts of the Superintendent in improving the efficiency of the several departments of the School, more fully referred to in his report. We feel that the thanks of this Corporation are due to the Government and Legislature of Nova Scotia for the prompt and generous action taken by them with respect to the annual grant per pupil.

Upon our representation that \$120 per annum, even when supplemented by private donations and the interest derived from investments, was not sufficient to keep the school in the state of efficiency already attained, the Government most liberally agreed, with the consent of the Legislature, to increase the yearly allowance to \$150 per capita. This increase the Legislature most cordially endorsed, and hence the forebodings of embarrassment to which we gave expression last year have been dispelled, and we are able to meet you to-day with all our financial obligations discharged, and with a slight balance of \$32.22 on the right side to carry forward. If the Legislatures of New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island make a similar increase in their grants for the education of their blind, our receipts should be sufficient to meet all legitimate current expenses. This of course does not include capital outlay such as would be incurred in the construction of an Assembly Hall, or in the building of a house for the accommodation of adult workmen. An Assembly Hall, capable of accommodating from three to four hundred persons, has long been a felt want for the holding of public meetings in connection with the School, and the house for adult workmen, although not absolutely necessary, would be of very great advantage to those receiving instruction in our workshops.

It will be seen by the Superintendent's report that the number of pupils registered is the same as at the same date last year. Of those who left the Institution at the close of the last school year we have every reason to believe that they benefitted by the course of instruction received here. Ainslie Shaw, of Musquodoboit, (whose exemplary conduct while a pupil deserves special mention) has opened a general store in his native place, and this reminds us that several of those who have graduated from the Institution are following callings outside of the ordinary beaten track followed by the blind. One is a manufacturer of venetian blinds which he cuts, strings, and hangs without assistance; another is the manager of a grist mill which he operates without help, receiving and grinding the grain and measuring out and delivering to his customers their

proper proportion of flour, bran, &c. These facts we think go to show that the training imparted in this School is eminently practical in its character, enabling the graduates in the event of failure in one occupation to branch out in other directions. Miss Maggie Duke, of Richibucto, N. B., who graduated from the musical department last summer, is now maintaining herself as a music teacher in Acadia Mines. This young lady will, we feel certain, do credit to the Institution, and make for herself many friends in her new home.

The importance of the Musical Department has always been recognized by your Board, and whenever our funds would allow of it, we have gladly granted the Superintendent any assistance he may have asked for. The teaching of music is we believe the vocation best adapted to those who have been deprived of sight, provided always intellectual culture and refinement of manners, as well as a thorough knowledge of the art of teaching, be possessed by the blind instructor or instructress, and these remarks apply with equal force to those among the blind who follow the calling of pianoforte tuning.

Our workshops are thoroughly heated and well equipped throughout, and those who have visited them can testify as to the industry of the young men under instruction and the excellence of the work turned out. Mr. Baird, who is now master of the willow trade, is in a position to give the pupils as well as the adult workmen a clear and intelligent idea of the work he desires them to do, and it may safely be predicted that the mechanics turned out by him will be thorough and conscientious workmen.

Your Board has expended this year in improvements and repairs the sum of \$441.97, which has added materially to the appearance and convenience of the southern building. A French roof has been placed upon the north wing of this building, and a portion of the room thus attained has been connected with the workshop as a stock room. The grounds have also been improved, although the outlay for this purpose was not so large as we could have wished.

We trust that it may never be said of the Board of Managers of this School that they are indifferent to or forgetful of its many benefactors. Those present will very readily recall the names of many leading citizens of Halifax who have been identified with the work carried on in this Institution, or who by their bequests or donations have made it possible to carry out this work successfully. Of these, the late William Murdoch stands first and foremost, inasmuch as it was to his beneficence that the Halifax School for the Blind owes its origin. It is therefore with no small degree of satisfaction that your Board record the fact that Mrs. Charles Murdoch, sister-in-law of the founder of the School, has presented the Institution with a handsome oil portrait of the late William Murdoch, which gift was suitably acknowledged at the time of the presentation in a meeting called for the purpose. The portrait now graces the wall of our committee-room, and will be a constant reminder to those who gather at our Board meetings of the thoughtful consideration of the man who first made provision for the education of the blind of this the city of his adoption, and of the Maritime Provinces.

Our efficient Superintendent, Mr. C. F. Fraser, deserves the warmest thanks of the Board for his untiring efforts to instruct and elevate the minds of the pupils placed under his charge. Indeed, his work from the first has been a labor of love.

The thanks of the Board are also due to Doctors Lindsay and Dodge for gratuitous professional services rendered during the year, and to Dr. Cogswell for his dental services.

The Board still has the valued services of Miss Mackenzie, who is doing good work in the literary department.

Mr. and Mrs. Blair are still as active as ever in the duties devolving upon them as Steward and Matron.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT.

The table of attendance, herewith submitted, shows that 28 blind persons have been under instruction during the year; 18 of whom were males, and 10 females; 3 of these have since graduated or left the school, and one has died; making the actual attendance December 1st, 1886, 24; 15 of whom are males and 9 females. Of these, 18 are from the Province of Nova Scotia, 5 from New Brunswick, and 1 from Prince Edward Island. No pupils have yet entered the school from the Province of Newfoundland, but I anticipate that at least one blind child from that colony will enter during the ensuing year.

	Boys.	Girls.	Total.
Pupils registered December 1st, 1885.....	14	10	24
Entered during the year.....	1	0	1
" adult workmen.....	3	0	3
Graduated, or remained at home.....	2	1	3
Died.....	1	0	1
Pupils registered December 1st, 1886.....	15	9	24

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

Slowly but surely the educators of the blind are beginning to realize that too strict a conformity to the methods employed in teaching those blest with sight is a positive disadvantage in the training of blind youth. The complexity of the characters which make up our alphabet offer to the seeing child no difficulties, but if the more elaborate of these be printed in raised letters in a convenient size, they would present great difficulties to those dependent upon touch; and this is true in a less degree of all line characters. After thirteen years experience as an instructor of the blind, and after having given a most impartial trial to the several line and point systems now used by them, I am convinced that the ordinary line letter is unsuited to the sense of touch; and that although a small proportion of pupils may learn to read fluently from books printed in such characters, even these will, as age advances, find the reading of raised print tedious

and unsatisfactory. Leaving out of the consideration the large-sized moon print, the cost of printing books in which is nearly double that of the ordinary Roman and lower case letters, it may be said that at least 50 per cent more persons can be taught to read in the point system than in the smaller line characters ; add to this the fact that the point print can be written as well as read, and that by its use the blind can study independently of a teacher ; I think it must be obvious that the continued publication of books in line characters is mis-directed philanthropy, for which the blind are not in any way responsible, but from which they are the constant losers. These remarks I make in the interests of my fellow blind in all countries, in order to add my testimony to the weight of evidence already given by others in favour of a progressive idea. In our own school we have never been conservative in our methods. Whenever or wherever we could see that our apparatus was inferior, or the scope of our training less practical, we have profited by the experience of our co-labourers in other lands ; making the schools of Britain, France, Denmark, United States, and Ontario instrumental in advancing the facilities of this Institution.

In our School Department proper, our pupils have, with few exceptions, made satisfactory progress. We have endeavoured to make them realize that the mere memorizing of long lessons in History or Geography, although they might strengthen the memory, would otherwise be of no permanent advantage. The mind, like the body, must be developed naturally, and it is the after success not the present attainments of the pupils, by which the method of training should be judged. Our graduates are grateful for the advantages they have enjoyed as pupils ; but they fully realize that we have only assisted them to climb the first few rungs of the educational ladder, and that their continued progress must depend entirely upon their individual exertions. Of course we have had in the school those whose inherent incapacity rendered it impossible for us to inspire them with even a spark of ambition. These are the exceptions ; but even these have, I believe, through regular training, been saved from lives of hopeless idiocy. To such the kingdom of the mind is at best

a barren waste, with here and there an oasis of reflection, capable of cultivation.

Miss McKenzie continues to render most valuable assistance, and, as she gains in experience, enters with even greater zeal into her work.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

About sixty per cent of the graduates of the Paris School, and about eighty per cent of those who have graduated from the Normal College for the Blind, London, earn their livelihood as music teachers or pianoforte tuners. These institutions, it must be understood, are national in their character, their students being drawn from the Provincial Schools. This fact, together with the exceptional facilities which such central conservatories afford, accounts for the high average of their successful graduates; but it shows also that the standard of training has much to do with the after success of the blind. Many of the advantages of these schools are due to their location in populous musical centres, but this would be of small consideration, were it not that their directors have at their disposal ample funds which enable them to employ the very best outside assistance that can be secured, this school has been and is doing what it can to give its pupils a thorough musical training. Many of those who have graduated have made successful teachers; but the keen competition of the ever increasing number of those persons who from necessity or inclination are seeking employment as music teachers, makes it imperative upon us to exert every effort to make the comparative qualifications of our graduates still more apparent. Unfortunately no certificate of competency is required of a music teacher, hence the field is being occupied by persons whose only qualification is the low charge they make per pupil. Happily our graduates have no longer to contend with a lack of faith in their ability to teach; and the new difficulty we shall have to meet is by convincing the public that the teachers turned out from this school are on an equality with the best. Of course the individuality of the young man or young woman has much to do with his or her success; but it must be our aim, so far as the school is concerned,

to push up the standard of training to the highest attainable point. Appreciating this, I have, with the consent of your Board, engaged the services of Mr. A. M. Chisholm, who, since his graduation from this school, has spent two years at one of the best of Berlin's Conservatories. With Mr. Chisholm's help and the additional time given to musical training, I trust to keep up the reputation of the school as one in the very front rank among similar institutions on either side of the Atlantic. Miss Maggie Duke, of Richibucto, N. B., who graduated most creditably at the close of the last school year, is now pleasantly situated at Acadia Mines, having already secured a small class of pupils, with every prospect of increasing their number. This young lady, during her term of pupilage, was a faithful student, and I anticipate for her a successful career. Our number of practising instruments has, thanks to the thoughtful kindness of the executors of the late Mr. Justice Bliss, been increased by the addition of a Grand Piano, for which gift we are deeply grateful. We now have, including two tuning pianos and an organ, ten instruments in all, most of which are in use nine hours in each day. The alterations effected in our outbuildings during the vacation have been of great advantage to the tuning and technical departments. We now have for the former a convenient tuning-room, in which Mr. Reid, our painstaking instructor, is training five young men as pianoforte tuners. By the use of the models of piano actions, recently purchased, he gives them an insight into the mechanism employed by different makers, and by dissecting the old pianos teaches them to replace broken strings, and otherwise make such repairs as properly come within the province of pianoforte tuners. In Paris this business is monopolized by the blind, but unfortunately our tuners have to contend with some unprincipled persons, who by mean insinuations endeavour to discredit the work done by the blind, thus adding another to the difficulties they have to encounter. I do not mean to say that blind tuners, any more than tuners with sight, always do their work thoroughly and conscientiously, but I do assert that blindness does not prevent them from doing so. All the pianos in the Boston Public Schools are now looked after by

blind tuners, and the School Board has repeatedly expressed its entire satisfaction with the manner in which the contract is carried out. It will only be a matter of time before our tuners will gain the entire confidence of the public. For the meanwhile, we are grateful to those who have cheerfully placed their pianos in the charge of competent and reliable tuners like Mr. Reid.

WORK DEPARTMENT.

It is note-worthy that among the industrial blind, the graduates of the institution of Saxony are most successful. This may be attributed first, to the fact that all the pupils are trained in handicrafts; whereas, in a school like ours, many are drafted off into the musical and tuning departments; second, to the admirable system of aid extended to graduates in making their first start in the world. Through the agency of our loan fund, which now amounts to \$1036 67, we are enabled to extend like assistance to those who are trained in this school. Intelligence is as essential to success in industrial pursuits, as are patience and skill. Willow workers have to go through a long course of instruction in order to turn out first class work; but as they have to buy material, as well as dispose of the finished products, it is absolutely necessary that they should receive some instruction in the primary rules of arithmetic. With this end in view, I have directed that adults in the work-shop do attend in the class-room during the first hour of each day; after which they retire to the work shop, in which they remain four hours before, and four hours after dinner. While there these young men are trained by Mr. Baird our efficient trade instructor, who is continuously on hand to direct the work. Seventeen pieces of willow-work, including twelve different kinds of baskets, several toys, a child's rocking-chair, and a work-stand, are now made in our shops; and if the ready sale of the articles manufactured may be taken as a fair criterion of the value of the trade to the blind, it may safely be predicted that an industrious man who has mastered his trade can by it readily earn a livelihood. The Halifax and Ontario schools are the only ones on the continent in which willow-work is taught; but as soon as it becomes generally

known that by the use of hollow dissecting models the blind can perfectly build and shape their work, this trade will be the leading industry taught in American Schools. By the alterations and improvements before referred to, a stock-room adjoining the work-shop has been provided, which, aside from its convenience, saves much unnecessary labour and waste of material. The Girl's Work Class is carried on two hours daily, the pupils receiving instruction in sewing, knitting, and various kinds of useful and ornamental work.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Through the agency of the walking-club, and the instruction given in gymnastics during the winter months, the physical training of the pupils is cared for; the health average for the past year standing well as compared with those of previous sessions. The pupils are encouraged to walk for exercise, not only in the grounds, but likewise in the streets, Public Gardens, and Park. In this connection we have to deplore the accidental death by drowning of one of our brightest boys. This lad, Henry Brunt, in the company of several school-mates, went to spend the morning of a holiday in Point Pleasant Park. Here they had frequently gone before, to loiter for an hour upon the beach, and enjoy to the full, the fresh and healthful sea-breezes. On the day in question, young Brunt, contrary to the order never to venture alone upon a wharf, and despite the appeals of his companions to remain with them, wandered down upon the Government Wharf, which was in an unsafe condition, owing to broken planks. When the boys were ready to return to the school, they called for Brunt, but receiving no answer, one of the number, who had partial sight, went to the head of the wharf; but not being able to see him, ran to a neighbouring house for assistance. Brunt's body was discovered lying in the water directly beneath a hole, through which he must have accidentally fallen. At the inquest, which was held over his body the coroner's jury returned a verdict in accordance with the above facts. The body was removed and buried in the Church-yard at Harrietsfield, his native village. The boy was not

entirely blind ; he had in fact sufficient sight to enable him to move about the streets with ease and it was probably this which led him to be more venturesome than he would have been had he been totally blind. His death has proved a sad but salutary lesson to his young school-mates.

Again the blind of Nova Scotia are indebted to the Government and Legislature of this Province for increasing the annual per capitum grant from \$120 to 150. This increase has enabled and will enable your Board to improve the several departments of the school, and to carry on the Institution without the constant fear of incurring debt on current account. There are of course many things which might be done to still further improve our facilities for teaching the blind to be self-dependent ; but these can well be left to the support of the philanthropic. I feel confident that so soon as the matter of an increase in the grant made to this school, is properly submitted to the Government and Legislature of New Brunswick, the annual allowance will be placed at the same figure as that made by Nova Scotia.

The blind of these Maritime Provinces owe a deep debt of gratitude to the late Mr. William Murdock, of Halifax, through whose beneficent bequest this Institution was founded. It is therefore with special pleasure that I record the fact that Mrs. Charles Murdoch, sister-in-law of our benefactor, has presented to the school a handsomely executed portrait of the man who first conceived the idea of supplying the means of education to the blind of this his adopted country. Mrs. Murdoch, and the relatives of the Murdoch family, may rest assured that the memory of the founder of this Institution will ever be cherished with love by those who, in God's good providence, are called upon to seek an education in the Halifax School for the Blind.

Trusting that the happy relations which have existed between your Board, myself, and my co-workers, may continue on the same satisfactory footing, I beg to submit this my Annual Report for the year 1886.

Respectfully yours,

C. F. FRASER,

Superintendent.

SCHOOL RECORD.

Number of school days in the term, 240. Possible number of marks to be obtained in the Literary or Musical department, or for deportment, 1000.

NAMES OF PUPILS.		Attendance.	School.	Musie.	Deportment.
<i>Senior Division.</i>					
1.	Minnie Corbin, Chester, N. S.	218	737	811	942
2.	Maggie Dunke, Richibucto, N. B.	240	964	1000
3.	Mary Elwood, Halifax, N. S.	240	864	894	1000
4.	Maggie Newcombe, Shoal Bay, N. S.	240	808	890	925
5.	Isabel Staten, Foreston, N. B.	238	851	913	946
6.	James Butler, Barrington, N. S.	240	868	873	936
7.	Willie Collins, St. John, N. B.	240	856	919	935
8.	Martin Fletcher, DeBert, N. S.	150	523	541	962
9.	Stephen Harivel, Stellarton, N. S.	150	495	497	987
10.	Murdoch Morrison, Stellarton, N. S.	240	832	615	923
11.	John Rafuse, Chester, N. S.	238	854	931
12.	Ainslie Shaw, Musquodoboit, N. S.	240	1000	1009
13.	George Theakston, Halifax, N. S.	216	854	813	994
14.	Montague Warren, Montague Bridge, P. E. I.	240	841	957	921
<i>Junior Division.</i>					
15.	Bertha Hall, Lawrencetown, N. S.	240	879	867	1000
16.	Agnes Valley, Chatham, N. B.	240	872	786	966
17.	Pacebe Armstrong, Hants Co., N. S.	240	644	640	1000
18.	Alice Gammon, Tor Bay, N. S.	177	637	611	1000
19.	Harriet Smith, Walton, N. S.	238	677	566	1000
20.	John Dunn, Cumberland Co., N. S.	240	790	211	1000
21.	John Hawbolt, Marie Joseph, N. S.	240	797	780	1000
22.	Clifford Williston, Newcastle, N. B.	239	819	800	991

PUPILS ENTERED DURING THE YEAR.

Frederick Horton, Musquodoboit, N. S.

ADULT WORKMEN.

Thomas Crowell, Horton Landing, Kings Co., N. S.

Thomas McGuire, City of Halifax.

E. Corbett, Musquodoboit, N. S.

GRADUATED OR REMAINED AT HOME.

A. Shaw, Musquodoboit, N. S.

John Hawbolt, Marie Joseph, Guysboro' Co., N. S.

Margaret Duke, Richibucto, N. B.

PRIZES.

LITERARY DEPARTMENT.

Senior Division.

1st Prize—Ainslie Shaw, Musquodoboit, N. S.

2nd Prize—James Butler, Barrington, N. S.

Junior Division.

1st Prize—Bertha Hall, Lawrencetown, Annapolis Co., N. S.

2nd Prize—Agnes Valley, Chatham, N. B.

MUSICAL DEPARTMENT.

1st Prize—Margaret Duke, Richibucto, N. B.

2nd Prize—Montague Warren, Montague Bridge, P. E. I.

BOYS WORK DEPARTMENT.

Divided prize—John Rafuse, Chester, N. S., and Frederick Horton, Musquodoboit, N. S.

HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND in account with E. D. MEYNELL, Treasurer.

1886.		1885.	
Dr.		Cr.	
Dec. 11.	To paid House expenses, including salaries to Steward, Matron, and Servants	By Balance	\$ 1 05
"	" Salaries to Superintendent and Teachers. 1300 00	" Interest and Dividends	1516 90
"	" Repairs to Building	" Manufactures sold	86 97
"	" Grounds	" Donations	297 85
"	" Printing, Stationary and Postage	" Grants—P. E. Island Government \$ 200 00	
"	" Instruction in Singing and Musical Instruments	" " New Brunswick " 720 00	
"	" Prizes	" " Nova Scotia—Counties and Government....	2592 00
"	" Sundries	" Legacies—late H. Hesslein....	\$ 100 00
"	" Materials for manufacture in workshop..	" " J. B. Smith....	100 00
"	" Board of adult pupils....	" " A. Shiels	552 18
"	" Halifax Banking Co. and Bank Nova Scotia, on temporary deposit.....	" " Jas. J. Merkel.	50 00
"	" Invested on mortgage.....	" Deposits in sundry Banks, withdrawn for permanent investment	802 18
"	" Balance	" Cash overdrawn to pay bills, and refunded	1948 84
			3 67
			<u>\$8159 52</u>
		" Balance, as per Bank book	\$ 32 22

Examined and found correct. [E. & O. E.] E. D. MEYNELL, Treasurer.

MEMORANDA.

Dr.		Cr.	
To actual expenditure of School for 1886		By Balance from year 1885	\$ 1 05
" Items belonging to Investment acct.	\$5375 12	" Grants, Interests, Dividends, Donations and Sales.	5417 45
" Balance carried forward	2752 18	" Items belonging to Investment acct.	2741 02
	32 22		
Total	<u>\$8159 52</u>	Total	<u>\$8159 52</u>

PATRONS.

BY-LAWS, ART. 1. —The payment of five hundred dollars at one time shall constitute a Patron of the Institution.

WILLIAM CENARD, Esq.

LIFE MEMBERS.

BY-LAWS, ART. 2. —Donors of fifty dollars at one time, and members who have served the office of Manager not less than three consecutive years, shall be constituted life members of the Association.

Lieut. Gen. Lord Alex. Russell,
Sir Edward Kenny.
His Lordship Bishop Binney.
Sir William Young.
W. J. Stairs.
J. Duffus.
William Hare.
Edward Albro.
Hon. J. W. Ritchie.
Hon. D. McN. Parker.
John Donll.
John Stairs.
Adam Burns.
Wm. Esson.
J. B. Bland.
John H. Bauld.
John Gibson.
James Scott.
Daniel Cronan.
J. Seeton.
R. B. Seeton.
James F. Avery, M. D.
G. C. Harvey.
Geo. H. Starn.
W. C. Silver.
Stephen Tobin.
Thos. A. Brown.
W. Compton.
Hon. S. L. Shannon.
E. J. Lordly.
W. H. Stimj son.

John Farquharson.
John H. Symons.
Jairus Hart.
Chas. Cogswell, M. D.
B. D. Fraser, Esq., M. D.
S. A. White.
E. W. Chipman.
W. H. Neal.
John Silver.
John S. Maclean.
W. Fraser.
H. N. Paint.
P. Lynch.
T. V. Woolrich.
W. H. Newman.
J. B. Elliot.
W. H. Creighton.
T. E. Everett.
D. Falconer.
H. P. Burton.
Capt. Lowry, 47th Regt.
Hon. John Boyd.
George Thomson.
M. H. Richey.
J. C. Mackintosh.
M. A. Buckley.
James R. Lithgow.
Sir Patrick McDougall, K. C. B.
Lt. Thos. A. W. Cochran, R. N.
George Mitchell.
H. H. Fuller.

MEMBERS.

BY-LAWS, ART. 2. —Any subscriber to the funds of the Institution to the amount of five dollars or upwards, may be constituted a member, on motion of a member of the Board of Managers, at one of their regular monthly meetings, and so continue during the annual payment of five dollars.

Dr. A. P. Reid.
Mrs. L. A. Wilnot.
Prof. W. J. Alexander.
Prof. Johnson.

Mrs. Northup.
James Farquhar.
Sir H. W. Hoyles.

LEGACIES.

1871—Jane Molloy	\$ 88 87	1881—Ann Hunter....	\$ 20 00
1872—Robert Noble	100 00	1882—John Saunders.....	416 36
1874—R. Purvis	100 00	John King	600 00
1875—James McDonald	150 00	W. P. West.....	1000 00
1876—Miss Jane M. Tonge..	20 00	1883—Jos. Hart	100 00
1876—N. L. West.....	800 00	Mrs. G. Dunn.....	40 00
1877—J. M. Walker	500 00	1884—Hugh Elliot	100 00
1878—W. L. Black	250 00	Alex. McLeod	100 00
1879—Charles Roche.....	100 00	1885—James Thomson.....	100 00
1879—Miss Service.....	400 00	H. Hesslein.....	100 00
1880—Mrs. Williamson.....	200 00	1886—S. B. Smith.....	100 00
1880—G. Freize.....	100 00	A. Shiels	552 18
Ann Wilson	100 00	James G. Merkel.....	50 00

FORM OF LEGACY.

I hereby give and bequeath to "the Halifax School for the Blind," Halifax, Nova Scotia, and their successors, forever, (if real estate) all that, etc., (if personal), the sum of, etc., to be used for the general purposes of the Institution.

DONATIONS.

Lt.-Gen. Lord Alex. Russell..	\$100 00	F. D. Corbett.....	\$ 10 00
Mrs. Northup	10 00	Major Maingay	25 00
James Farquhar	5 00	Prof. Johnson.....	5 00
Sir H. W. Hoyles.....	5 00	Mrs. Lawrence	2 00
A. P. Reid, M. D....	5 00	A. Moffat	2 00
Prof. W. J. Alexander.....	5 00	H. H. Fuller.....	10 00
Mrs. L. A. Wilnot.....	5 00	Estate W. S. Sterling.....	5 00

THANKSGIVING COLLECTIONS, ETC., 1886.

Part Thanksgiving Collection, Presbyterian Church, Gairloch, per Rev. N. Brodie	\$ 5 00
Half amount taken at Truro during week of prayer, per Alex. Wilson ..	26 50
Presbyterian Church, Wyeocomagh. per Rev. J. Rose	6 00
Chalmers Church, Halifax, Thanksgiving Day	5 00
St. Matthew's, Pugwash, Thanksgiving Day	5 00

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS

OF THE

Halifax School for the Blind.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE I. NAME.

This Association shall, conformably to the Amended Act of Incorporation, 30 Victoria, C. 50, be styled, "THE HALIFAX SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND."

ARTICLE II.—MEMBERSHIP.

All original subscribers to the fund for erecting the Asylum for the Blind within the City of Halifax shall be and continue members of this Association so long as they contribute the sum of one dollar or upwards to the support of the Institution.

Any subscriber to the funds of the Institution to the amount of five dollars or upwards may be constituted a member of the Board of Managers at one of their regular monthly meetings, and so continue during his annual payment of five dollars.

Donors of fifty dollars at one time, and members who have served the office of Manager not less than three consecutive years, shall thereby be constituted life members of the Association.

Payment of five hundred dollars at one time shall constitute a patron of the Association.

Patrons and Members shall have the right of voting at the annual election of Managers, and shall themselves be eligible.

ARTICLE III.—MANAGEMENT.

The Management of the Institution shall be entrusted to a Board of twelve members, who shall choose from their own number a President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Corresponding Secretary, and Recording Secretary.

An annual meeting for the election of the Board of Management shall be held on such day of the second week of the last month of the year as the Board of Managers may appoint, due notice thereof being given in two at least of the Halifax newspapers. Any number of persons present in a half hour from the time named in such notice shall be a quorum for the election of Managers, and the transaction of any business to be passed upon at such annual meeting;

but any five members then present may, if they shall deem the business to require it, demand an adjournment to some other day or hour within one week therefrom, and the same shall stand adjourned accordingly, and the business so postponed shall at first adjourned meeting be first taken up and finally disposed of.

If for any reason the election of Managers be, pursuant to the foregoing provision or otherwise, postponed, the Managers of the preceding year shall hold office until the new Board be elected.

The Board of Managers shall have power to supply vacancies occurring therein between the periods of the annual elections.

At the annual meeting the votes shall be taken by ballot, and the first twelve persons named on a list made in the order of the number of votes given for them respectively, beginning with the largest number of votes and so on to the least, shall constitute the Board of Managers.

ARTICLE IV.—BY-LAWS, &C.

The power of making, amending and repealing by-laws, and regulations for their own guidance and the government of the Institution, and the appointment and removal of all officers, and regarding salaries and allowances, is vested in the Board of Management, but no by-law once passed shall be altered or repealed except on a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board present at a regular monthly meeting thereof, and after notice of such alteration or repeal given at next preceding monthly meeting.

ARTICLE V.—AMENDMENTS.

The foregoing articles, together with the provisions contained in the Act of Incorporation, are declared to be the Constitution of the "Halifax School for the Blind," and no alteration shall be made therein except by a vote of two-thirds of the persons present at an annual meeting of the Corporation upon the recommendation of the Board of Managers, of which at least one month's notice in writing shall have been given to the Patrons and Members individually, by letter addressed to the Patron or Member, and mailed at Halifax, or left at his place of business or abode.

BY-LAWS.

BOARD OF MANAGERS' MEETINGS.

I. STATED MEETINGS.

The Board shall hold a stated meeting at the Institution on the first Monday of every month, except when such Monday shall fall on a public holiday, then on the day following, and at any such hours as they may from time to time appoint.

II.—SPECIAL MEETINGS.

Special Meetings may be convened by request of the President or three members of the Board, the time, place, and object to be specified in such request, and inserted in the notice of meeting by the Secretary.

At least twenty-four hours' notice of special meeting shall be given, and no business other than that specified in the notice shall be transacted.

III.—QUORUM.

Five of the members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

IV.—PRESIDING OFFICER.

The President shall preside at all meetings of the Board at which he may be present, and shall be *ex officio* member of all standing committees. In his absence the Vice-President shall represent him, as well on standing committees as at the Board. In the absence of both President and Vice-President from any meeting of the Board, the chair shall be taken by the first named on the list of Managers present at the hour for commencing business.

V.—COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees shall be appointed by the Board of Managers at the first meeting in each year :—

(1) Finance—

A Committee of Finance, consisting of the President, Treasurer and four members of the Board, whose duty it shall be to devise and recommend ways and means for securing and preserving the financial prosperity of the Institution, to examine and certify the correctness of the Treasurer's annual report, and at the end of every year prepare and submit a full and clear report of the financial condition of the Institution.

Every Standing Committee shall from time to time furnish the Committee of Finance with such information as they may require, and particularly before the close of every year with a full inventory of all the property in their respective departments.

(2) *Instruction*—

A Committee of Instruction, consisting of four members of the Board, who shall have supervision of the Educational Department, and shall enquire from time to time into the methods pursued in the instruction of the blind in other places.

(3) *Manufactures*—

A Committee of three on Manufactures to supervise the Manufacturing Department, supply that Department with raw material, and dispose of the articles manufactured.

(4) *House*—

A House Committee on supplies, repairs and improvements, to have supervision of all matters connected with the supply of provisions, clothing and other necessities; the regulation of the domestic arrangements of the Institution, and care of the building and grounds.

(5) *General Duties*—

Each Standing Committee shall visit the Institution at least once a month and arrange for one of their number to do so weekly. They shall have the entire and conclusive control, subject only to the full Board, over the department allotted to them; shall keep a book at the Institution, in which all their proceedings shall be entered, and especially all requisitions, instructions and orders given to the Superintendent or other officers shall be clearly set down therein, for the prevention of any misunderstanding regarding the same. The Chairman shall be bound to see that the duties of his committee are in every respect fully performed, and shall furnish the Board whenever required with the minutes of their proceedings, and all other information required.

VI.—DUTIES OF THE TREASURER.

The Treasurer shall have charge of all funds and securities belonging to the Institution and shall be *ex officio* a member of the Committee of Finance; shall deposit all moneys of the Institution, on receipt, in some Bank approved by the Managers, to the credit of the Institution and pay by cheques drawn thereon all bills certified by the chairman of any Standing Committee. He shall present at every stated meeting in each year a full report for the year, and in such forms as the Board may prescribe.

VII.—DUTIES OF THE CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.

The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of the Institution and submit the same at each stated meeting of the Board. He shall file at the Institution all letters received by him or the Board, and copies of all letters written by him, and keep the same under his charge for the exclusive use of the Board.

VIII.—DUTIES OF THE RECORDING SECRETARY.

The Recording Secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of the Board, and enter the same in a Book of Minutes; shall prepare and issue all notices required in conducting the business of the Institution; and communicate all resolutions of the Board to the Committee or officer affected thereby.

He shall have the custody of the seal, and use the same only as directed by the Board of Managers.

He shall see that all by-laws of the Institution are properly recorded in a book kept for that purpose; shall file at the Institution all reports and papers submitted to the Board or placed in his custody, and safely keep them for the exclusive use of the Board.

Whenever the Secretary is mentioned in any by-law, resolution or other proceedings, it shall mean the Recording Secretary.

In his absence the Manager shall appoint one of their number to act *pro tempore*.

IX.—ADMISSION OF PUPILS.

(1) *General Terms*—

Young blind persons of good moral character between the ages of ten and twenty-one, may be admitted to the Institution in accordance with the provisions of the Acts in relation to the Education of the Blind, in Chap. 17, Act of 1882, and Amendment thereto, passed 1883, which shall entitle them to free education in the Institution. The pupils must furnish their own clothing, and pay their own fares to and from the Institution.

Their friends may visit them at reasonable times under the regulation of the Board.

(2) *Day Scholars*—

The Board may, at their discretion, receive day scholars upon such terms and conditions as they may prescribe.

(3) *Forms, &c.*

Applications for admission must be addressed to the Recording Secretary, at the Asylum, and made upon the forms and in accordance with the directions prescribed by the Board.

AN ACT

IN RELATION TO THE EDUCATION OF THE BLIND.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows :

1. The parents or guardian of any blind person between the age of ten and twenty-one years, who has, under the provisions of Chap. 33 of the Revised Statutes of Nova Scotia, 4th Series, a settlement within any County or District of the Provinces incorporated by Chap. I, Statutes of 1879, may apply to the Warden of such Municipality for an order for the admission of such person into the Halifax Asylum for the Blind, which order the said Warden shall at once grant under his hand and the Corporate Seal of the Municipality on being satisfied that such blind person is between the ages above prescribed, and has a legal settlement in the Municipality.

2. Such order shall entitle a blind person named therein to be received into the Halifax Asylum for the Blind and subject to conditions hereinafter described, to be educated and boarded therein during the school terms. Pupils under thirteen years of age when entering the school shall be entitled to remain seven years; those entering between the ages of thirteen and seventeen shall be entitled to remain five years, and those between the ages of seventeen and twenty-one years to remain three years.

3. For every blind person received into the Halifax Asylum for the Blind, pursuant to this Act, and educated and boarded therein, the Board of Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind shall be entitled to receive from the Provincial Treasury at the rate of Sixty Dollars per annum, payable half-yearly, and also to receive at the same rate from the County School Fund of the Municipality to which the said blind person belongs. When such Municipality shall not comprise an entire County, the last-mentioned grant of Sixty Dollars shall be charged against the County School Funds of both Districts included within the County in proportion to the amounts of their respective school allowance derived from the County School Fund.

4. It shall be the duty of the Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind to furnish semi-annually to the Council of Public Instruction full returns of the names, ages, residences, &c., of the pupils in respect of whom the above grants may be claimed.

5. In the semi-annual apportionment of the County School Fund the Superintendent of Education shall include the amounts due the Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind, and issue drafts therefor on the Treasury of the respective Municipalities.

6. The Provincial Secretary shall be *ex officio*, a member of the Board of Managers of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind.

7. In the case of any incorporated city or town within the Province in which any such blind person as is designated in the first Section of this Act has a legal settlement, an allowance to the Board of Managers of the said Asylum of

Sixty Dollars per annum may be assessed upon the inhabitants of the said city or town, in case such city or town does not contribute to or draw from the County School Fund, and in such case said sum shall be paid to the said Managers for each such blind person sent to the said Asylum, and each such blind person shall be admitted to said Asylum in the manner prescribed in the first Section of this Act, the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation exercising the powers therein conferred upon the Warden of the Municipality; and there shall be paid to the said Managers from the Provincial Treasury, for each such blind person for which such city or town contributes such allowance the sum of Sixty Dollars in like manner as is provided in the third Section of this Act.

(See Amended Acts of 1883 and 1884.)

**AN ACT TO AMEND CHAPTER 17, ACTS OF 1882, ENTITLED:
"AN ACT IN RELATION TO THE EDUCATION OF
THE BLIND.**

(Passed the 19th day of April, 1883.)

Section 1. Sec. 7 and clause substituted.

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows :

1. Section 7 of Chapter 17, of the Acts of 1882, is hereby repealed and the following substituted :

In the case of any incorporated city or town within the province in which any blind person, as is designated in the first section of this Act, has a legal settlement, and which city or town does not contribute to or draw from the County School Fund, there shall be paid by such city or town to the Board of Managers of the said Asylum an allowance of Seventy-five Dollars per annum, and such sum shall form part of the general assessment of such city or town for each such blind person sent to the said Asylum; and each such blind person sent to the said Asylum shall be admitted to the said Asylum in the manner prescribed in the first section of the Act hereby amended, the Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation exercising the power therein conferred upon the Warden of the Municipality; and there shall be paid to the said Managers from the Provincial Treasury for each such blind person for which such city or town contributes such allowance, the sum of Seventy-five Dollars in like manner as is provided in the third section of the Act hereby amended.

AN ACT

TO INCORPORATE THE HALIFAX ASYLUM FOR THE BLIND.

WHEREAS, it has been proposed that an institution for the reception, maintenance and education of blind persons, should be established in the City of Halifax, and it is desirable that such institution should be founded and carried on by individual enterprise and voluntary association :

Be it enacted by the Governor, Council and Assembly, as follows :

1. When it shall be made to appear to the satisfaction of the Governor-in-Council, that not less than twelve persons have associated themselves for the above object, and subscribed the sum of twelve thousand dollars, and paid thereon into the hands of the Treasurer, by them appointed, the sum of two thousand dollars, the Governor-in-Council shall, by proclamation, declare this Act to have come into operation, and thereupon immediately thereafter, such persons, and all such other persons as shall from time to time become associated with them, their successors and assigns, shall be and are hereby incorporated into a company and declared to be a body corporate by the name of "The Halifax Asylum for the Blind," and by that name shall and may have succession and be capable of suing and being sued, pleading and being impleaded, defending and being defended in all courts and places whatsoever, in all manner of actions, suits, matters, complaints, and causes whatsoever ; may have and use a common seal, and may change and alter the same at their pleasure ; and shall be capable in law of purchasing, holding and conveying any real and personal estate for the purposes of this incorporation, and none other, which shall not exceed the annual value of ten thousand dollars.

2. For the better carrying into effect the objects of the said incorporation, there shall annually be elected twelve persons, who shall constitute a Board of Managers who shall have power to conduct and manage all its concerns, the Managers to be elected by ballot at an annual meeting of the members of the Society, to hold their offices for one year, or until others be elected in their places ; the said election to be held at such times and places as the said corporation shall by their by-laws from time to time appoint and direct ; the aforesaid Managers shall be elected by a majority of the members present at such election ; and in case of any vacancy or vacancies in the said Board of Managers, by death, resignation or otherwise, then the said Board shall have power to fill such vacancy or vacancies until the next annual election.

3. The Board of Managers shall as soon after the annual election as shall be convenient, proceed to elect by ballot, from among their own number a President, a Vice-President, a Treasurer, and two Secretaries, who shall serve for one year, or until others are elected in their room ; and the first election of Managers and Officers shall take place on a day to be fixed by the Governor-in-Council, in the proclamation aforesaid.

4. The Board of Managers, so elected as aforesaid, shall have full power to make such by-laws as from time to time may be necessary, relative to the management, disposition of the estate and concerns of the said corporation, and

regulations of the persons exercising the offices aforesaid, not contrary to law, and may appoint such agents and servants as may be deemed necessary to transact the business of the said corporation, and designate their duties.

5. It shall be lawful for the City of Halifax to transfer by deed duly executed to the "Halifax Asylum for Blind," either by way of gift or for valuable consideration, any land hereditaments now vested in the said City of Halifax, either by Act of this Province or by purchase, so that the value of such land and hereditaments shall not exceed in the whole the sum of twelve thousand dollars.

6. The Managers of the said Institution shall, on or before the first day of February in each year, make a full report to the Governor-in-Council of their proceedings.

AN ACT TO AMEND THE ACT TO INCORPORATE THE HALIFAX ASYLUM FOR THE BLIND.

(Passed the 19th day of April, A. D. 1884)

WHEREAS, It has been deemed advisable to change the name of the Halifax Asylum for the Blind, which was incorporated under that name by Chapter 50 of the Acts of the Province, passed in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixty-seven;

Be it therefore enacted by the Governor, Council, and Assembly, as follows:

1. The Halifax Asylum for the Blind shall, from and after the passing of this Act, be called and known as "The Halifax School for the Blind," which name shall be the corporate name of the Institution, and shall be used and have effect in all respects, and for all purposes as fully as if such name had been inserted in the original act of incorporation.

2. All gifts, grants, deeds, conveyances, leases, agreements, devises, bequests, contracts, payments, reckonings, dealings and transactions, to, by, with, for, or on account of the said institution before the passing of this Act, shall be, remain and continue and inure to the benefit of the said "The Halifax School for the Blind," as fully as though the name, "The Halifax School for the Blind," had been used or specified in said gifts, grants, deeds, conveyances, leases, agreements, devises, bequests, contracts, payments, reckonings, dealings and transactions.

4. The said Act, as hereby amended, shall stand and remain valid and effectual in all other respects.

